

Ayres Gun Shop  
324 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia

HABS No. VA-456

HABS

VA

7- ALEX

73-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Washington 25, D.C.

Ayres Gun Shop  
324 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia

HABS No. VA-456

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VA  
7-ALEX

Present Owner: Alexandria National Bank

73.

Present Occupant and Use: Demolished Fall, 1958 for Parking Lot.

Description

Commercial brick building, with Victorian Gothic front.

Number of stories: 2

Historical Data

Year of erection: Late 18th C.

Built for (first owner) Unknown

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Notable events and occupants:

The front facade was photographed to illustrate Victorian Gothic alterations to an early building. Now that this building has disappeared the existing photographic record and structural analysis becomes all the more important. Records of the Virginia Assurance Society may be useful in unraveling early ownerships for indications are that the building was standing and covered by a policy in the 1790's.

Certainly this and the adjoining structure were built as one as indicated by the common central chimney. It would doubtless be safe to guess they were constructed for business purposes, and that the flounder ell still standing was an addition. The flounder structure formerly at the rear of 324 King St. was undoubtedly a warehouse and a good example of the local type. The party wall shown in the photograph remains from Lockett's Hardware building, dating from the early 19th C.

References: HABI form, prepared by T. Russell Jones and Worth Bailey,  
HABS., National Park Service, December, 1958.

Approved by

Dick Sutton  
Chief Architect

Date

Feb. 16, 1959